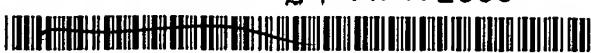


## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



27 APR 2005



(43) International Publication Date  
13 May 2004 (13.05.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2004/040558 A1

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: G11B 5/66, 11/105 (74) Agent: DEGUELLE, Wilhelmus, H., G.; Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/IB2003/004275

(22) International Filing Date:  
26 September 2003 (26.09.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
02079582.9 1 November 2002 (01.11.2002) EP

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(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

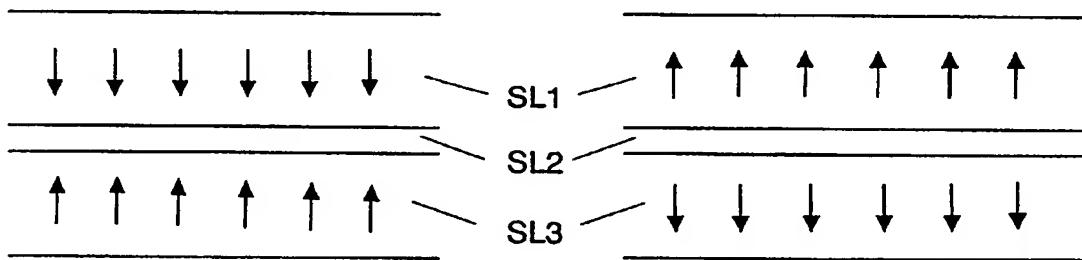
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

## Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: THERMALLY-ASSISTED RECORDING MEDIUM WITH A STORAGE LAYER OF ANTFERROMAGNETIC DOUBLE-LAYER STRUCTURE WITH ANTI-PARALLEL ORIENTATION OF MAGNETIZATION



A

B

WO 2004/040558 A1

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a thermally-assisted recording medium comprising a storage layer consisting of a double-layer structure of antiferromagnetically coupled first (SL1) and second (SL3) layers with substantially the same composition, wherein the first and second layers are adapted to have an antiparallel orientation of magnetization. Due to the antiparallel orientation of the magnetization of the two layers during cooling down, subdomain formation is suppressed and uniformly magnetized domains can be written with a reduced external field. This has main advantages for power consumption of portable applications and opens the possibility to apply magnetic field coils for recording at higher data rates.